

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

**Section 390
Categorical Exclusion for
Oil and Gas Development**

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2014-0070-CX(390)

CASEFILE/PROJECT NUMBER: COC-58705 (lease)

PROJECT NAME: Robert L. Bayless WR 14-15H2 (one new gas well on existing wellpad)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T1S, R104W, SWSE S14

APPLICANT: Robert L. Bayless, Producer LLC

BACKGROUND: The applicant has one producing oil well on the existing WR 14-15H wellpad. This well was approved in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2012-0042-EA on October 26, 2012. On October 22, 2013, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) White River Field Office (WRFO) received one Notice of Staking for the WR 14-15H2. An onsite inspection was completed on November 19, 2013; notes for that inspection are on file at the WRFO.

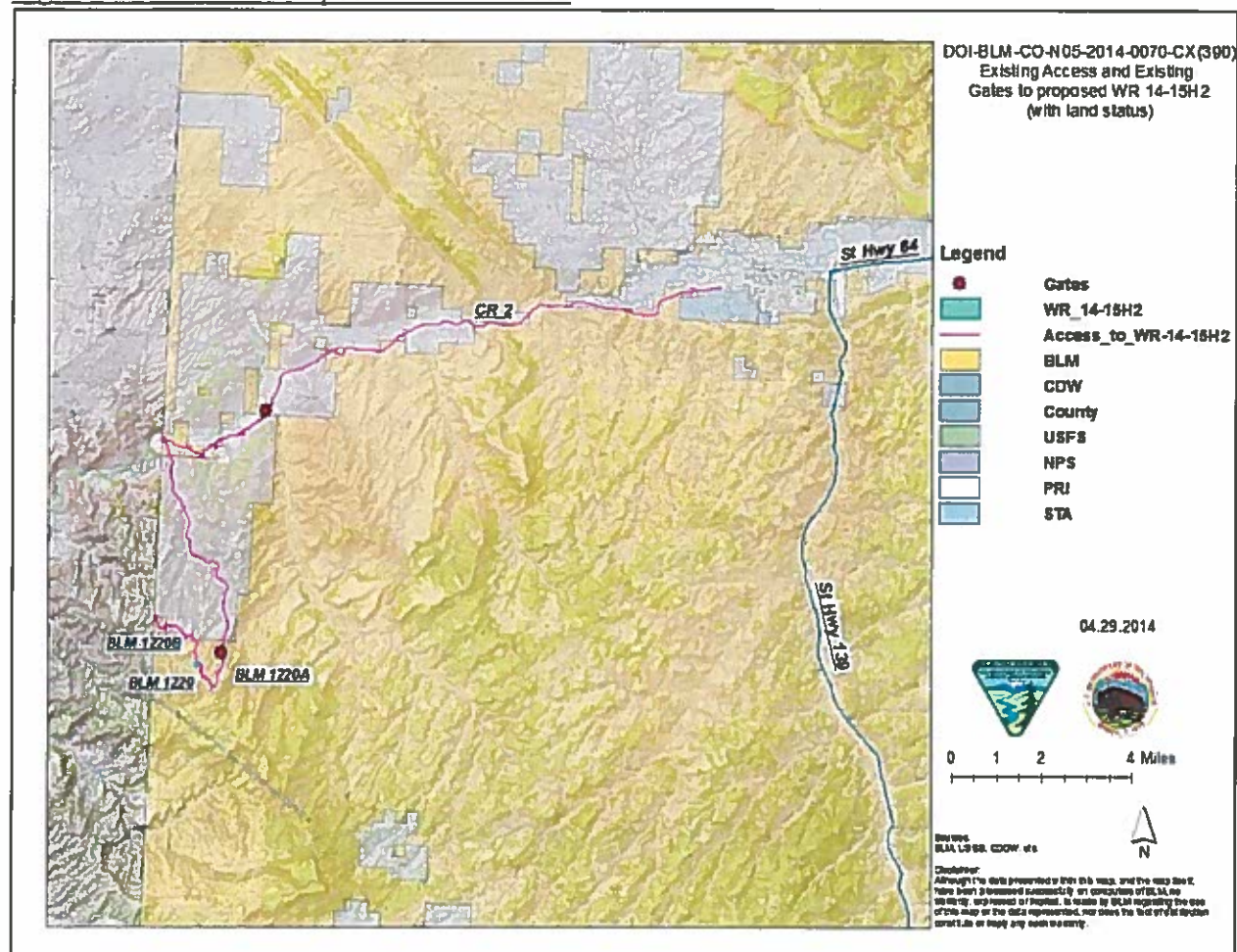
DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: Robert Bayless (Bayless) proposed to drill one gas well on the existing WR 14-15H wellpad. The approximate date work will start to drill this well is July 2014, with an estimated duration of 30 days.

Access:

No new roads are required.

Existing access to the Proposed WR 14-15H2 is on intermixed surface ownership (BLM and private) using RBC 2, private roads, BLM Road 1220A, BLM Road 1220, and BLM Road 1220B (Figure 1). There are two existing locked gates to access the location; the northern gate is on private land with no BLM lock and the southern gate is on BLM surface. The BLM Natural Resource Specialist assigned to Bayless has been working with the BLM Park Ranger to get a BLM lock in place on that gate.

Figure 1 – Access to Proposed WR 14-15H2



All existing county roads used for access to the WR 14-15H will be coordinated with the Rio Blanco County Road Department. Non-county roads will be maintained to BLM Manual 9113 standards. Additionally, private and BLM surface roads that are part of the access to reach this location will be maintained to BLM Manual 9113 standards. Maintenance will be done prior to the commencement of operations and will continue until final abandonment and reclamation of the wellpad location.

Bureau of Land Management Best Management Practices as outlined in the Surface Operating Standards and Guidelines for Oil and Gas Exploration and Development (The Gold Book) will be utilized for all construction and operational activity related to this facility.

Specific details for the road are located in the Application for Permit to Drill (APD) and on file at the BLM WRFO.

New Production Facilities Proposed

The BLM will be contacted prior to construction of production facilities. A Sundry Notice (SN) will be filed if requested by BLM.

Dimension of existing facility of the pad is 357 feet by 274 feet for a total of 97,818 square feet, for drilling operations. Total existing disturbance boundary is approximately 4.80 acres.

Production equipment will be painted light reflective colors to limit evaporation and waste of liquid hydrocarbons. All above ground permanent structures will be painted to blend with the surrounding landscape. The color specified at the onsite was Juniper Green. The tallest structure will be no greater than 20 feet in height.

A dike will be constructed around the production facilities. The dike materials will be constructed of suitable materials and impermeable to the fluid contained. The dikes will have sufficient volume to contain a minimum of the total volume of the largest tank containing liquid hydrocarbons within the facility/battery and sufficient freeboard to contain precipitation, unless more stringent protective requirements are deemed necessary by the Authorized Officer (AO).

Location of Water Supply

Water will be transported by truck from the Rangely city water supply (750 County Road 102) which is approximately 22 miles northeast of the Proposed location. Humboldt Incorporated and RN Industries will haul water for Bayless over the existing access roads in the area. If a closer water source is identified and deemed usable, Bayless will notify the AO with the necessary information.

Table 1 - Anticipated Water Use

Water Use Operation	Volume per well (estimated barrels)	Volume per wellpad (estimated barrels)	Water Type	Water Delivery Method	Water Source	Comments
Construction	N/A	5,000	Fresh	Truck	Rangely City Water Supply	Map – see Sheet A – Access Road Map in well file
Dust Abatement	N/A	2,000	Fresh	Truck	Rangely City Water Supply	Map – see Sheet A – Access Road Map in well file
Drilling (Conductor & Surface)	1,000	NA	Fresh	Truck	Rangely City Water Supply	Map – see Sheet A – Access Road Map in well file
Drilling (Intermediate & Production)	4,000	NA	Fresh	Truck	Rangely City Water Supply	Map – see Sheet A – Access Road Map in well file
Completion	25,000	NA	Fresh/Produced	Truck	Rangely City Water Supply	Map – see Sheet A – Access Road Map in well file

Waste Disposal

A closed loop system will be used for the drilling of the well; no reserve pit is required.

Mud cuttings will meet the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Table 910-1 requirements before being buried onsite.

Wellsite Layout

No additional topsoil removal will be necessary.

Topsoil and spoils pile are clearly separated (see Proposed Location Layout in the well file).

The topsoil pile will remain where it is until the WR 14-15H2 is drilled (see Proposed Location Layout in the well file).

Pipelines and Flowlines

There is an existing pipeline located on the existing wellpad which was constructed for the WR 14-15H and will be utilized for the WR 14-15H2 should it become a producing well.

Surface Restoration (General)

Salvaging and spreading topsoil will not be performed when the ground or topsoil is frozen or too wet to adequately support construction equipment. If such equipment creates ruts in excess of four inches deep, the soil will be deemed too wet.

Earthwork for interim and final reclamation must be completed within six months of well completion of plugging (weather permitting).

In areas that will not be drill seeded, the seed mix will be broadcast seeded at twice the application rate shown and covered 0.25 to 0.5 inches deep with a harrow or drag bar or will be broadcast seeded into imprints, such as fresh dozer cleat marks.

No seeding will occur from winter freezing of the soil until March 31. Fall seed is preferred and will be conducted from September one to March 31 and prior to ground freezing.

Annual or noxious weeds shall be controlled on all disturbed areas as directed by the Field Office Manager. An intensive weed monitoring and control program will be implemented beginning the first growing season after interim and final reclamation. Noxious weeds that have been identified during monitoring will be promptly treated and controlled. A Pesticide Use Proposal will be submitted to the BLM for approval prior to the use of herbicides. All reclamation equipment will be cleaned prior to use to reduce the potential for introduction of noxious weeds or other undesirable non-native species. The operator will coordinate all weed and insect control measures with state and/or local management agencies.

Reclaimed areas will be monitored annually. Actions will be taken to ensure that reclamation standards are met as quickly as reasonably practical.

Reclamation monitoring will be documented in a reclamation report and submitted to the AO. The report will document compliance with all aspects of reclamation objectives and standards, identify whether the reclamation objectives and standards are likely to be achieved in the near future without additional actions, and identify actions that have been or will be taken to meet the objectives and standards. The report will also include acreage figures for: Initial Disturbed Acres, Successful Interim Reclaimed Acres, Successful Final Reclaimed Acres. Reports will not be submitted for sites approved by the AO in writing as having met interim or final reclamation

standards. Any time 30 percent or more of a reclaimed area is re-disturbed, monitoring will be reinitiated.

Interim Restoration (Production)

Rehabilitation of unneeded, previously disturbed areas will consist of backfilling and contouring the cuttings pit area, back sloping and contouring all cut/fill slopes. These areas will be reseeded.

Wellpad size will be reduced to minimum size necessary to conduct safe operations. Cuts/fills will be reduced to 3:1 or shallower.

Cuttings pits will be closed and backfilled as soon as the pit contents are dry enough to do so, or no later than the end of the next full summer following rig release, whichever comes first, to allow sufficient time for the pit contents to dry. Cuttings pits remaining open after this period will require written authorization of the AO.

Following completion activities, pit liners, if used, will be removed and the contents tested to COGCC's 910-1 Table. The pits will be backfilled with a minimum of three feet of soil material. In relatively flat areas, the pit will be slightly mounded to allow for settling and to promote surface drainage away from the backfilled pit.

The portions of the cleared well site not needed for operational and safety purposes will be recontoured to the original contour if feasible, or if not feasible, to an interim contour that blends with the surrounding topography as much as possible. Sufficient level area will remain for setup of a workover rig and to park equipment. In some cases, rig anchors may need to be pulled and reset after recontouring to allow for maximum interim reclamation.

Topsoil will be evenly respread and aggressively revegetated over the entire disturbed area not needed for all-weather operations including road cut/fills and to within a few feet of the production facilities, unless an all-weather, surfaced, access route or small teardrop turnaround is needed on the well pad.

Initial seedbed preparation will consist of backfilling, leveling, and ripping all compacted areas. Final seedbed preparation will consist of contour cultivating to a depth of four to six inches within 24 hours prior to seeding. Seeding will be conducted no more than 24 hours following completion of final seedbed preparation. An approved BLM number three certified weed-free seed mix will be used to meet reclamation standards. The seed mix will be used on all disturbed surface including pipelines and road cut/fill slopes.

To help mitigate the contrast of recontoured slopes, reclamation will include measures to feather cleared lines of vegetation and to save and redistribute cleared trees, debris, and rock over recontoured cut/fill slopes.

A proposed seed mixture for this location is the BLM number three seed mix.

Reclamation will be considered successful if the following criteria are met:

- Seventy five percent of predisturbance cover within five years of initial reclamation.

- Eighty percent dominate species with no noxious weeds.
- Erosion features equal to or less than surrounding area.
 - The vegetation will consist of species included in the seed mix and/or occurring in the surrounding natural vegetation.

Final Restoration (Plug and Abandonment and Removal of Equipment)

Flowlines on location will be removed before site reclamation and all flowlines between the well site and production facilities will remain in place and will be filled with water.

If necessary to ensure timely revegetation, the pad will be fenced to BLM standards to exclude livestock grazing for the first two growing seasons or until seeded species become firmly established, whichever comes later. Fencing will meet standards found on page 18 of the Gold Book, 4th Edition, or will be fenced with operational electric fencing.

Revegetation will be accomplished by planting mixed grasses with BLM number three seed mix.

Initial seedbed preparation will consist of backfilling, leveling, and ripping all compacted areas. Final seedbed preparation will consist of contour cultivating to a depth of four to six inches within 24 hours prior to seeding. Seeding will be conducted no more than 24 hours following completion of final seedbed preparation. A certified weed-free seed mix designed by BLM to meet reclamation standards will be used. The seed mix will be used on all disturbed surfaces including pipelines and road cut/fill slopes.

Distribute topsoil, if any remains, evenly over the location, and seed according to the BLM number three seed mix. If needed, the access road and location shall be ripped or disked prior to seeding. Perennial vegetation must be established. Additional work shall be required in case of seeding failures, etc.

All disturbed areas, including roads, pipelines, pads, production facilities, and interim reclaimed areas will be recontoured to the contour existing prior to initial construction or a contour that blends indistinguishably with the surrounding landscape. Re-salvaged topsoil will be spread evenly over the entire disturbed site to ensure successful re-vegetation. To help mitigate the contrast of recontoured slopes, reclamation will include measures to feather cleared lines of vegetation and to save and redistribute cleared trees, woody debris, and large rocks over recontoured cut/fill slopes.

Decision to be Made: The BLM will decide whether or not to approve the WR 14-15H2 well, and if so, under what conditions.

PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to and has been reviewed for conformance with (43 CFR 1610.5, BLM 1617.3) the following plan:

Name of Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP).

Date Approved: July 1, 1997

Decision Language: “Make Federal oil and gas resources available for leasing and development in a manner that provides reasonable protection for other resource values.”

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW: The Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58) prescribed five categorical exclusions (CX) for activities whose purpose is for the exploration of oil or gas.

The Proposed Action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under the Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act, #1: *“Individual surface disturbances of less than five acres so long as the total surface disturbance on the lease is not greater than 150 acres and site-specific analysis in a document prepared pursuant to the NEPA has been previously completed.”*

Documentation

The BLM NEPA Handbook (H-1790-1) provides specific instructions for using this CX.

1) Is surface disturbance associated with the Proposed Action less than five acres?

Yes, the surface disturbance associated with the Proposed Action is 0.00 acres.

2) Is there less than 150 acres of surface disturbance, including the Proposed Action, on the entire leasehold?

The WR 14-15H wellpad surface disturbance is located on two leases, COC-58704 and COC-58705. It is estimated based on 2011 aerial photography on May 1, 2014 that there is 18.69 acres surface disturbance on lease COC-58704 and 10.29 acres disturbance on lease COC-58705.

3) Is the Proposed Action within the boundaries of an area included in a site-specific NEPA document? (The NEPA document must have analyzed the exploration and/or development of oil and gas (not just leasing) and the action/activity being considered must be within the boundaries of the area analyzed in the environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). The NEPA document need not have addressed the specific permit or application being considered.)

Yes, the Proposed Action is within the boundaries of CO-110-2012-0042-EA which approved the WR 23-10 gas well for Robert Bayless on October 26, 2012.

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 5/6/2014. A list of resource specialists who participated in this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Name	Title	Resource	Date
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	7/7/2014
Ed Hollowed	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	6/17/2014
Heather Woodruff	Ecologist	Special Status Plant Species	5/13/2014

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: The wellpad and immediately surrounding area have been inventoried at the Class III (100 percent) pedestrian level (Conner and Davenport 2004 compliance dated 1/24/2006, Davenport 2012 compliance dated 3/20/2012) which did not result in the identification of any cultural resources. However the proposed access road in the NW¼ of Section 24, T 1 S, R 104 W, is not covered by any acceptable inventory data. Should it become necessary to conduct road maintenance that extends outside the disturbance shown on the BLM's 2011 National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) aerial photography, additional inventory shall be required before road work can be authorized.

Native American Religious Concerns: No Native American religious concerns are known in the area, and none have been noted by Northern Ute Tribal authorities. Should recommended inventories or future consultations with Tribal authorities reveal the existence of such sensitive properties, appropriate mitigation and/or protection measures may be undertaken.

Paleontological Resources: The Proposed Action is located in an area generally mapped as the parachute Creek Member of the Green River Shale (Tweto 1979) which the BLM has categorized as a potential Fossil Yield Classification (PFYC) 5 formation. This formation is known to produce scientifically noteworthy fossil resources. Any excavation into the underlying sedimentary rock for road maintenance or excavation of reserve/blooi/cuttings pits has the potential to impact scientifically noteworthy fossil resources.

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species: Wildlife resource conditions and impact analysis conducted for the parent document remains respectively unchanged and valid. Mitigation applicable to this action has been carried forward from the original EA.

Special Status Plant Species: There were special status plant concerns in the original environmental assessment, DOI-BLM-CO-110-2012-0042-EA. Bayless WR 14-15 pad was the first documented direct removal of an ephedra buckwheat population within the WRFO. Seed from the removed ephedra population was collected by a third party contractor (WestWater Engineering) prior to pad construction. According to WestWater, some of the ephedra buckwheat seed was seeded in the surrounding habitat around the pad location. Nothing has been reported to the BLM that the seed sprouted. The remainder of the seed that was not seeded directly is being stored by WestWater.

The same analysis from DOI-BLM-CO-110-2012-0042-EA remains sufficient since no new ground disturbance will be occurring at this time with the drilling of well WR 14-15H2. All

applicable mitigation with regards to special status plants will be carried forward in this document for the drilling of well WR 14-15H2.

REFERENCES CITED:

Armstrong, Harley J., and David G. Wolny

- 1989 Paleontological Resources of Northwest Colorado: A Regional Analysis. Museum of Western Colorado, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Conner, Carl E., and Barbara J. Davenport

- 2004 Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Four Proposed Federal Well Locations (Weaver Ridge Unit #23-9, #23-10, #23-14, and #27-1) and Access Roads in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Robert Bayless, Producer LLC. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (06-11-04: OAH # RB/LM/R962)

Davenport, Barbara

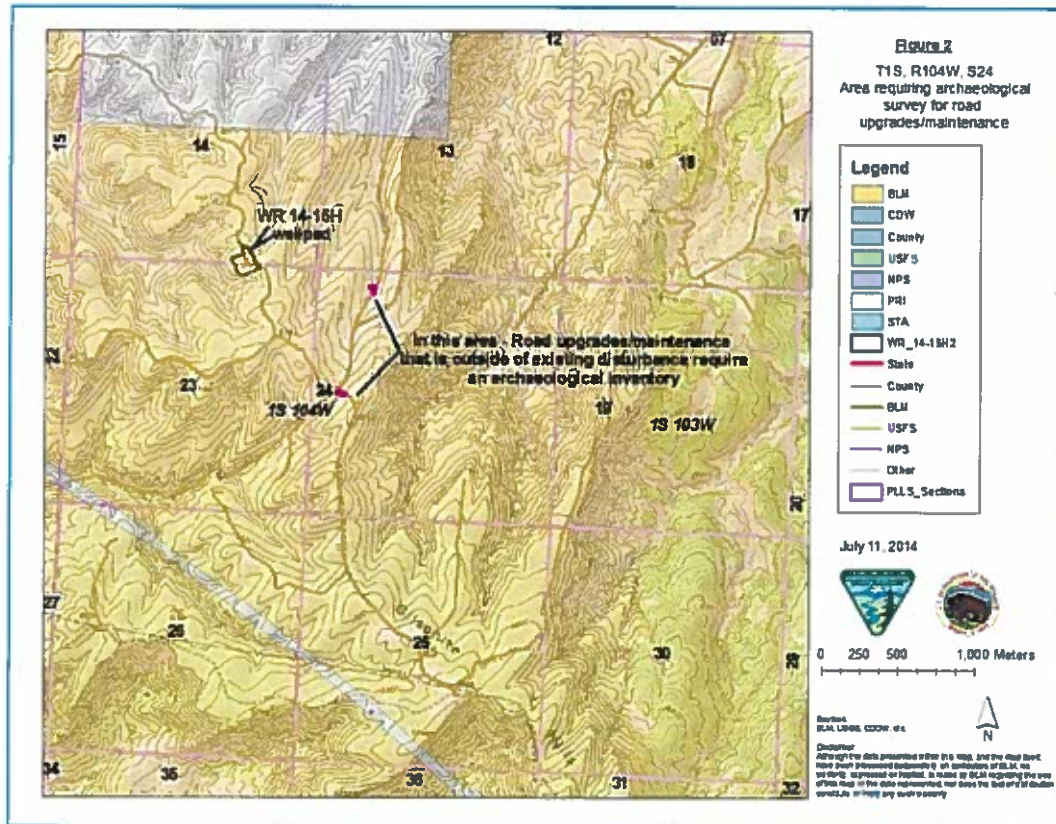
- 2012 Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for the Proposed Weaver Ridge 14-15H and 23-7H Well Locations in Rio Blanco County, Colorado for Robert L. Bayless Producer, LLC. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (12-11-04: OAH # RB.LM.NR2282)

Tweto, Ogden

- 1979 Geologic Map of Colorado. United States Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, Reston, Virginia.

MITIGATION:

1. Should it become necessary to conduct road maintenance that extends outside the disturbance shown on the BLM's 2011 National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) aerial photography, additional inventory shall be required before road work can be authorized. See Figure 2 below.



2. Success Criteria for evaluation of the reclamation will be established using the WRFO prescribed modified seed mix three, as the Desired Plant Community (DPC). The goal of successful reclamation will be to reach 80 percent similarity to the identified DPC in relation to the seed mix applied, range/ecological site description, Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) data, or the plant community of a pre-determined agreed upon reference site measured using an approved methodology for monitoring. Pre-existing vegetative cover will be estimated by assessing a pre-determined reference site when areas near the disturbance do not reflect the appropriate plant community. Successful reclamation will also be representative of an early seral growth of the native plant community as described by the approved seed mix, with no one species exceeding 70 percent foliar cover. A vegetation monitoring report for this site will be provided to the WRFO, on a three-year rotation, in accordance with the annual reclamation status report. GPS coordinates of monitoring transects will also be provided for replication of monitoring.
3. Final Abandonment of pipelines as proposed in the Surface Use Plan of the WR 14-15H2 APD are not consistent with "Oil and Gas Exploration and Development, The Gold Book, Fourth Edition – Revised 2007" (The Gold Book) guidelines. Final Abandonment

of pipelines must follow the following procedures or in a manner similar to The Gold Book as proposed in a Sundry Notice:

- Final abandonment of pipelines will involve flushing and properly disposing of any fluids in the lines. All surface lines and any lines that are buried close to the surface that may become exposed due to water or wind erosion, soil movement or anticipated subsequent use must be removed. Deeply buried lines may remain in place unless otherwise directed by the Authorized Officer.
4. Access to the WR 14-15H2 well goes through private land through two locked gates with one of the gates being located on private land. At the request of the BLM, Bayless has provided lock combinations for the gates to access this well. For the WR 14-15H2 well and any future wells proposed on the wellpad with the WR 14-15H2 well, if access changes (e.g., a different lock, a different combination, additional gates) Bayless must provide the BLM the ability to access the wells and inform the BLM within seven business days of any changes by Sundry Notice. This is in accordance with 43 CFR 3162.1 – General Requirements (b).
 5. In accordance with Onshore Order #1, March 7, 2007, VIII. Subsequent Operations and Sundry Notices, A., page 10337; if the WR 14-15H2 well is a producing well, prior to construction and installation; Bayless must submit proposed facilities by Sundry Notice. The proposal must include in writing what facilities are required and where they will be located. In addition, a wellpad layout diagram must be submitted. If surface disturbance is required to install the equipment that information must be included.
 6. The BLM WRFO requires notification to the AO's field representative concerning well development. Notification will be **24 hours prior to start** for the following activities:

Activity	Method	AO's Field Representative
Construction ⁽¹⁾	Sundry Notice and either Email or Phone	NRS
Reclamation ⁽²⁾		NRS
Drilling Rig Moves on Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Well Spud ⁽³⁾	Sundry Notice	PET only
Drilling Rig Leaves Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Completion Rig Moves on Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Completion Rig Leaves Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Work-Over Rig Moves on Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS
Work-Over Rig Leaves Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS

NOTES: NRS = Natural Resource Specialist, PET=Petroleum Engineering Technician

⁽¹⁾ Construction-related activities may include, but are not limited to, pad and road construction, pad expansion, clearing pipeline corridors, trenching, recontouring. The Sundry Notice will include the well pad name, location, and date of construction.

⁽²⁾ Reclamation activities may include, but are not limited to, seed bed preparation that requires disturbance of surface soils, seeding, or constructing exclosures (e.g., fences) to exclude livestock from reclaimed areas.

⁽³⁾ Breaking ground for drilling surface casing.

Standard cultural and paleontological resources mitigation includes the following:

7. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
8. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this

authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The operator will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The operator, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.

9. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the operator must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
10. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.
11. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the operator or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.

MITIGATION CARRIED FORWARD FROM DOI-BLM-CO-110-2012-0042-EA:

12. No development activities are allowed within CPW-designated big game critical winter range from December 1 to April 30. This applies to all acreage associated with the Proposed Action.
13. Any excavations into the underlying native sedimentary stone must be monitored by a permitted paleontologist. The monitoring paleontologist must be present before the start of excavations that may impact bedrock.
14. Third-party oversight will be required for construction and drilling activities as well as initial interim and final reclamation activities. The third party contractor must be a qualified botanist and be able to identify the special status plant species. The oversight monitor, as well as the BLM NRS, must be notified more than one week prior to activities. The oversight monitor will ensure:

- a. The occupied and suitable habitat is properly protected during earth moving activities are on-going.
 - b. Dust suppression activities are effective. If large plumes of dust are visible, the monitor can alert the project manager to temporarily halt activities until water can be applied.
 - c. Since construction activities may last several weeks, the monitor can be present during project onset and then as many times a week, but no less than once per week, as needed. BLM may require more or less time for the monitor to be on site.
 - d. If the monitor sees activities that impact the special status plant species and habitat, they must notify BLM immediately.
15. Personnel and activities associated with the construction, drilling, production, and operations of the Proposed Action will be confined to the permitted well pad location, access road, and pipeline ROW. Surrounding white shale suitable habitat will be fenced to deter any foot/construction traffic outside of the pad location. Prior to pad construction the third party monitor will advise the operator where to place temporary orange construction fence to protect special status plant species. After completion, the orange fence must be removed and interim reclamation activities can begin. Once interim reclamation (recontouring and seeding) is completed the following barbed wire fences can be placed as advised by the third party to protect suitable habitat.
- a. A livestock fence will be placed around interim and final reclamation areas to increase the chances of re-seeding success of the ephedra buckwheat.
 - b. A fence (as agreed upon by BLM and the project Proponent) will be placed along the perimeter of the pad (north, west, and south boundaries) to protect special status plant species and their associated habitat. "Sensitive area" signs will also be placed along the fence to deter public access.
16. Stockpiled topsoil will be piled no deeper than 12 inches and will not be stockpiled for an extended period of time (over 6 months). If long-term storage is necessary topsoil shall be seeded with an approved seed mix. BLM recommends modified seed mix number three.
17. The BLM recommends construction activities to occur outside of the growing season, from late September through March, to avoid indirect impacts to special status plant species. In the event construction and drilling occur during the growing season, fugitive dust must be aggressively controlled on all road and work areas using water only, free of any chemicals, oils, or solvents.

18. All disturbed areas for pad WR14-15 and associated access route and pipeline shall be promptly seeded with an approved seed mix. BLM recommends modified Native Seed Mix 3 (see Table #2 below). The mix has been modified to increase the number of forbs as well as reduce the competitive grass species.

Table #2 - Reclamation (interim and final) will be seeded using modified seed mix number 3.

Seed Mix	Cultivar	Common Name	Scientific Name	Application Rate (lbs PLS/acre)*
3	Whitmar	Bluebunch Wheatgrass	<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata ssp. inermis</i>	3.5
	Rimrock	Indian Ricegrass	<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i>	4
		Needle and Thread Grass	<i>Hesperostipa comata ssp. comata</i>	3.5
	Maple Grove	Lewis Flax	<i>Linum lewisii</i>	1
		Scarlet Globemallow	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	1
		Sulphur Flower Buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	1.5

*Application rates included are for drill seed application. If drill seeding method cannot be implemented, seed should be broadcast at double the rate specified. Broadcast seed should be covered by harrowing or raking to ensure germination and establishment. Seeding should occur between September 1 and March 15.

19. Weed management shall follow measures provided in the *Invasive, Non-native Species* section:
- All sites shall be monitored and treated for noxious weeds on an annual basis for the life of the project until Final Abandonment has been approved by the BLM.
 - All herbicide use must comply with buffers found in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA.
 - Invasive species found in and near special status plant species populations must be manually controlled. Surrounding areas must be spotted treated with backpack sprayers. BLM must approve all herbicides used within 300 meters of special status plant species populations.
 - Herbicide applicator personnel must be trained in the identification of the nearby special status plant species.
20. The BLM ecologist will be notified if any maintenance is required after the initial project is completed. All conservation measures must be followed for maintenance activities. Maintenance actions may require additional special status plant species surveys.
21. Vegetation removal associated with well pad, road and pipeline development will take place outside the migratory bird nesting season of May 15 through July 15. Earthwork associated with the Proposed Action will be permitted from July 16 through May 14.
22. Although reserve pits are not planned with this project, in the event that they are built the operator shall prevent use by migratory birds of reserve pits that store or are expected to store fluids which may pose a risk to migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and raptors during completion and after completion activities have ceased. Methods may include netting or other alternative methods that effectively prevent use and that meet BLM approval. It will be the responsibility of the operator to notify the BLM of the method that will be used to prevent use two weeks prior to when completion

activities are expected to begin. The BLM approved method will be applied within 24 hours after completion.

23. All construction activity shall cease when soils or road surfaces become saturated to a depth of three inches unless approved by the Authorized Officer.
24. All equipment that may act as a vector for weeds shall be cleaned before entering the project area.
25. All seed placed on BLM lands will comply with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) state noxious weed seed requirements and shall be certified by a qualified Federal, State, or county office as free of noxious weeds.
26. All straw, mulch, or other vegetative material used on site (e.g., for site stability or rehabilitation) shall be certified by a qualified Federal, State, or county office as free of noxious weeds or weed seed.
27. Construction sites will be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials at those sites shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site.
28. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and junk equipment. The holder shall be prepared to provide documentation that all waste is properly disposed of at the appropriate regulated disposal facility.
29. A release of any chemical, oil, petroleum product, produced water, or sewage, etc., (regardless of quantity) must be reported by the applicant to the BLM – WRFO Hazardous Materials Coordinator at (970) 878-3800.
30. If during any phase of the construction, operation, or termination of the pipeline or related facilities, any oil or other pollutant should be discharged from the pipeline system, or from containers or vehicles impacting Federal lands, the control and total removal, disposal, and cleanup of such oil or other pollutant, wherever found, shall be the responsibility of the pipeline holder, regardless of fault. Upon failure of the applicant to control, clean up, or dispose of such discharge on or affecting Federal lands or to repair all damages to Federal lands, the AO may take such measures as deemed necessary to control and clean up the discharge and restore the area, at the full expense of the applicant. Such action by the AO shall not relieve the applicant of any liability or responsibility.
31. When working on lands administered by the BLM WRFO, notify Craig Interagency Dispatch (970-826-5037) in the event of any fire.
 - a. The reporting party will inform the dispatch center of fire location, size, status, smoke color, aspect, fuel type, and provide their contact information.
 - b. The reporting party, or a representative of, should remain nearby, in a safe location, in order to make contact with incoming fire resources to expedite actions taken towards an appropriate management response.
 - c. The applicant and contractors will not engage in any fire suppression activities outside the approved project area. Accidental ignitions caused by welding, cutting, grinding, etc. will be suppressed by the applicant only if employee safety is not endangered and if the fire can be safely contained using hand tools and portable hand pumps. If chemical fire extinguishers are used the applicant must notify incoming fire resources on extinguisher type and the location of use.

- d. Natural ignitions caused by lightning will be managed by Federal fire personnel. The use of heavy equipment for fire suppression is prohibited, unless authorized by the Field Office Manager.
 - e. In an effort to improve safety to both Federal fire personnel and the public, all above ground pipelines will be marked in accordance with CFR Title 49 Part 192.707 "Line markers for mains and transmission lines".
 - f. The operator will provide the White River Field Office with a shapefile as to where any surface lines are located within the lease.
32. All activities would be required to comply with all applicable local, state, and Federal laws, statutes, regulations, standards, and implementation plans. This would include acquiring all required State and Rio Blanco County permits, implementing all applicable mitigation measures required by each permit, and effectively coordinating with existing facility right-of-way holders.
33. At least 90 days prior to termination of the right-of-way, the holder shall contact the Authorized Officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. This inspection will be held to agree to an acceptable termination and rehabilitation plan. This plan shall include, but is not limited to, removal of facilities, drainage structures, and surface material (e.g., gravel or concrete), as well as final recontouring, spreading of topsoil, and seeding. The Authorized Officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the holder's commencement of any termination activities.
34. For the purpose of determining joint maintenance responsibilities, the holder shall make road use plans known to all other authorized users of the common access road. Upon request, the Authorized Officer shall be provided with copies of any maintenance agreement entered into.
35. The project proponent will ensure that thru traffic along BLM Road 1220B remains open at all times and will also ensure that traffic delays due to project construction last no longer than ten minutes at any one time. The project proponent will post signs along BLM Road 1220B to the north of the project site, and at the intersection of BLM Roads 1220 and 1220B alerting the public of possible delays due to construction activities.
36. If necessary to achieve successful reclamation, livestock shall be excluded from reclaimed areas. Fences, cattle guards, and gates (all built to BLM specifications per BLM manual H-1741-1) will be installed, maintained, and removed by the operator upon approval by the WRFO BLM. In specific and predetermined instances, livestock enclosures may be retained for extended periods to meet other resource objectives.
37. Robert L. Bayless Producer LLC will limit unnecessary emissions from point or nonpoint pollution sources and prevent air quality deterioration from necessary pollution sources in accordance with all applicable state, Federal and local air quality law and regulation.
38. Robert L. Bayless Producer LLC will treat all access roads with water and/or a chemical dust suppressant during construction and drilling activities so that there is not a visible dust trail behind vehicles. Any technique other than the use of freshwater as a dust suppressant on BLM lands will require prior written approval from BLM.
39. When drilling to set the surface casing, drilling fluid will be composed only of fresh water, bentonite, and/or a benign lost circulation material that does not pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment (e.g., cedar bark, shredded cane stalks, mineral

fiber and hair, mica flakes, ground and sized limestone or marble, wood, nut hulls, corncoobs, or cotton hulls).

40. In addition to the design features included in the Proposed Action, the applicant shall use seed that is certified and free of noxious weeds. All seed tags will be submitted to the designated Natural Resource Specialist within 14 calendar days from the time the seeding activities have ended via Sundry Notice (SN). The sundry will include the purpose of the seeding activity (i.e., seeding well pad cut and fill slopes, seeding pipeline corridor, etc.). In addition, the SN will include the well or well pad number associated with the seeding activity, if applicable, the name of the contractor that performed the work, his or her phone number, the method used to apply the seed (e.g., broadcast, hydro-seeded, drilled), whether the seeding activity represents interim or final reclamation, an estimate of the total acres seeded, an attached map that clearly identifies all disturbed areas that were seeded, and the date the seed was applied.
41. Upon final abandonment of the well pad, 100 percent of all disturbed surfaces shall be restored to pre-construction contours to the extent practicable and revegetated. Natural drainage patterns will be restored and stabilized with a combination of vegetative (seeding, planting) and non-vegetative (material not harmful to wildlife, including straw bales and wattles, woody debris, biodegradable fabric) techniques. Monitoring and additional reclamation efforts shall persist until reclamation is proven successful, as determined by the BLM.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE: On-going compliance inspections and monitoring of drilling, production, and post-production activities will be conducted by White River Field Office staff during construction of well pads, access roads, and pipelines. Specific mitigation developed in the associated Categorical Exclusion and the lease terms and conditions will be followed. The Operator will be notified of compliance related issues in writing, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

NAME OF PREPARER: Jay Johnson

NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Heather Sauls

COMPLIANCE WITH NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with Section 390 of the Energy Policy Act.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:


Acting Field Manager

DATE SIGNED: 7/18/14

ATTACHMENTS: None

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641**

DECISION

PROJECT NAME: Robert L. Bayless WR 14-15H2 (new gas well on existing wellpad)

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2014-0070-CX(390)

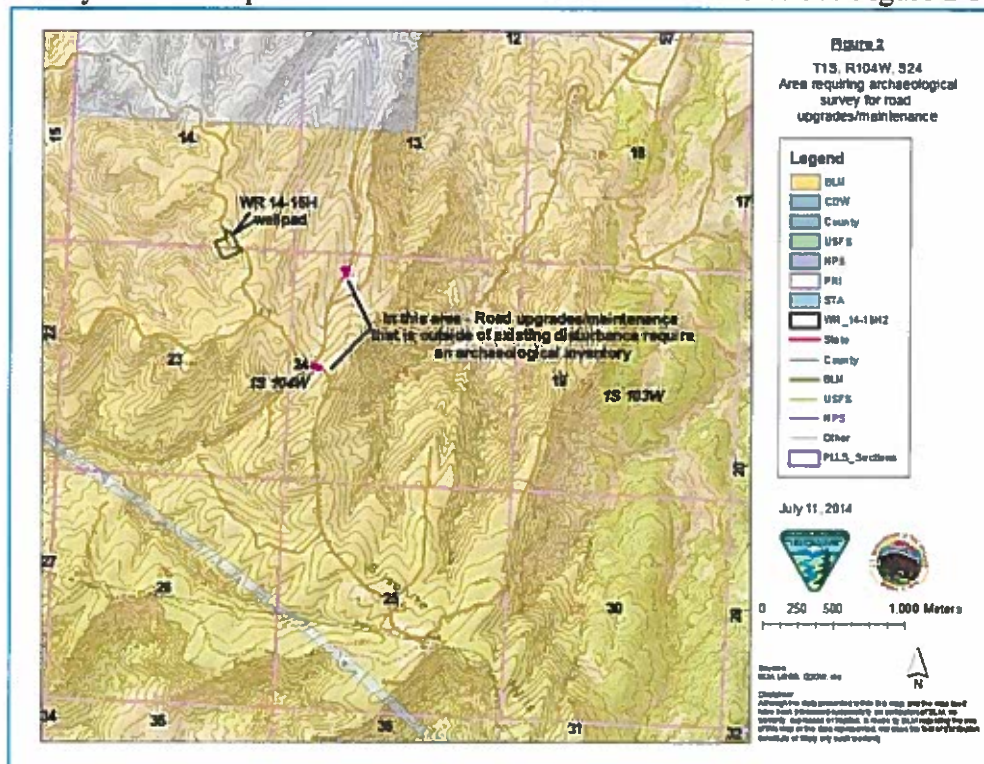
DECISION

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action, as mitigated in DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2014-0070-CX(390), authorizing the drilling, completion, operation, and maintenance of the WR 14-15H2 well.

Mitigation Measures

MITIGATION:

1. Should it become necessary to conduct road maintenance that extends outside the disturbance show on the 2011 National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) additional inventory shall be required before road work can be authorized. See Figure 2 below.



2. Success Criteria for evaluation of the reclamation will be established using the WRFO prescribed modified seed mix three, as the Desired Plant Community (DPC). The goal of successful reclamation will be to reach 80 percent similarity to the identified DPC in

relation to the seed mix applied, range/ecological site description, Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) data, or the plant community of a pre-determined agreed upon reference site measured using an approved methodology for monitoring. Pre-existing vegetative cover will be estimated by assessing a pre-determined reference site when areas near the disturbance do not reflect the appropriate plant community. Successful reclamation will also be representative of an early seral growth of the native plant community as described by the approved seed mix, with no one species exceeding 70 percent foliar cover. A vegetation monitoring report for this site will be provided to the WRFO, on a three-year rotation, in accordance with the annual reclamation status report. GPS coordinates of monitoring transects will also be provided for replication of monitoring.

3. Final Abandonment of pipelines as proposed in the Surface Use Plan of the WR 14-15H2 APD are not consistent with “Oil and Gas Exploration and Development, The Gold Book, Fourth Edition – Revised 2007” (The Gold Book) guidelines. Final Abandonment of pipelines must follow the following procedures or in a manner similar to The Gold Book as proposed in a Sundry Notice:
 - Final abandonment of pipelines will involve flushing and properly disposing of any fluids in the lines. All surface lines and any lines that are buried close to the surface that may become exposed due to water or wind erosion, soil movement or anticipated subsequent use must be removed. Deeply buried lines may remain in place unless otherwise directed by the Authorized Officer.
4. Access to the WR 14-15H2 well goes through private land through two locked gates with one of the gates being located on private land. At the request of the BLM, Bayless has provided lock combinations for the gates to access this well. For the WR 14-15H2 well and any future wells proposed on the wellpad with the WR 14-15H2 well, if access changes (e.g., a different lock, a different combination, additional gates) Bayless must provide the BLM the ability to access the wells and inform the BLM within seven business days of any changes by Sundry Notice (SN). This is in accordance with 43 CFR 3162.1 – General Requirements (b).
5. In accordance with Onshore Order #1, March 7, 2007, VIII. Subsequent Operations and Sundry Notices, A., page 10337; if the WR 14-15H2 well is a producing well, prior to construction and installation; Bayless must submit proposed facilities by Sundry Notice. The proposal must include in writing what facilities are required and where they will be located. In addition, a wellpad layout diagram must be submitted. If surface disturbance is required to install the equipment that information must be included.
6. The BLM WRFO requires notification to the AO’s field representative concerning well development. Notification will be **24 hours prior to start** for the following activities:

Activity	Method	AO's Field Representative
Construction ⁽¹⁾	Sundry Notice and either Email or Phone	NRS
Reclamation ⁽²⁾		NRS
Drilling Rig Moves on Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Well Spud ⁽³⁾	Sundry Notice	PET only
Drilling Rig Leaves Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Completion Rig Moves on Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET
Completion Rig Leaves Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS and PET

Activity	Method	AO's Field Representative
Work-Over Rig Moves on Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS
Work-Over Rig Leaves Location	Email and/or Phone	NRS

NOTES: NRS = Natural Resource Specialist, PET=Petroleum Engineering Technician

⁽¹⁾ Construction-related activities may include, but are not limited to, pad and road construction, pad expansion, clearing pipeline corridors, trenching, recontouring. The Sundry Notice will include the well pad name, location, and date of construction.

⁽²⁾ Reclamation activities may include, but are not limited to, seed bed preparation that requires disturbance of surface soils, seeding, or constructing exclosures (e.g., fences) to exclude livestock from reclaimed areas.

⁽³⁾ Breaking ground for drilling surface casing.

Standard cultural and paleontological resources mitigation includes the following:

7. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
8. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The operator will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The operator, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
9. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the operator must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
10. The operator is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.
11. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the operator or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing

construction through the project area.

MITIGATION CARRIED FORWARD FROM DOI-BLM-CO-110-2012-0042-EA:

12. No development activities are allowed within CPW-designated big game critical winter range from December 1 to April 30. This applies to all acreage associated with the Proposed Action.
13. Any excavations into the underlying native sedimentary stone must be monitored by a permitted paleontologist. The monitoring paleontologist must be present before the start of excavations that may impact bedrock.
14. Third-party oversight will be required for construction and drilling activities as well as initial interim and final reclamation activities. The third party contractor must be a qualified botanist and be able to identify the special status plant species. The oversight monitor, as well as the BLM NRS, must be notified more than one week prior to activities. The oversight monitor will ensure:
 - a. The occupied and suitable habitat is properly protected during earth moving activities are on-going.
 - b. Dust suppression activities are effective. If large plumes of dust are visible, the monitor can alert the project manager to temporarily halt activities until water can be applied.
 - c. Since construction activities may last several weeks, the monitor can be present during project onset and then as many times a week, but no less than once per week, as needed. BLM may require more or less time for the monitor to be on site.
 - d. If the monitor sees activities that impact the special status plant species and habitat, they must notify BLM immediately.
15. Personnel and activities associated with the construction, drilling, production, and operations of the Proposed Action will be confined to the permitted well pad location, access road, and pipeline ROW. Surrounding white shale suitable habitat will be fenced to deter any foot/construction traffic outside of the pad location. Prior to pad construction the third party monitor will advise the operator where to place temporary orange construction fence to protect special status plant species. After completion, the orange fence must be removed and interim reclamation activities can begin. Once interim reclamation (recontouring and seeding) is completed the following barbed wire fences can be placed as advised by the third party to protect suitable habitat.
 - a. A livestock fence will be placed around interim and final reclamation areas to increase the chances of re-seeding success of the ephedra buckwheat.
 - b. A fence (as agreed upon by BLM and the project Proponent) will be placed along the perimeter of the pad (north, west, and south boundaries) to protect special status plant species and their associated habitat. "Sensitive area" signs will also be placed along the fence to deter public access.
16. Stockpiled topsoil will be piled no deeper than 12 inches and will not be stockpiled for an extended period of time (over 6 months). If long-term storage is necessary topsoil shall be seeded with an approved seed mix. BLM recommends modified seed mix number three.
17. The BLM recommends construction activities to occur outside of the growing season, from late September through March, to avoid indirect impacts to special status plant

species. In the event construction and drilling occur during the growing season, fugitive dust must be aggressively controlled on all road and work areas using water only, free of any chemicals, oils, or solvents.

18. All disturbed areas for pad WR14-15 and associated access route and pipeline shall be promptly seeded with an approved seed mix. BLM recommends modified Native Seed Mix 3 (see Table #2 below). The mix has been modified to increase the number of forbs as well as reduce the competitive grass species.

Table #2 - Reclamation (interim and final) will be seeded using modified seed mix number 3.

Seed Mix	Cultivar	Common Name	Scientific Name	Application Rate (lbs PLS/acre)*
3	Whitmar	Bluebunch Wheatgrass	<i>Pseudoroegneria spicata ssp. inermis</i>	3.5
	Rimrock	Indian Ricegrass	<i>Achnatherum hymenoides</i>	4
		Needle and Thread Grass	<i>Hesperostipa comata ssp. comata</i>	3.5
	Maple Grove	Lewis Flax	<i>Linum lewisii</i>	1
		Scarlet Globemallow	<i>Sphaeralcea coccinea</i>	1
		Sulphur Flower Buckwheat	<i>Eriogonum umbellatum</i>	1.5

*Application rates included are for drill seed application. If drill seeding method cannot be implemented, seed should be broadcast at double the rate specified. Broadcast seed should be covered by harrowing or raking to ensure germination and establishment. Seeding should occur between September 1 and March 15.

19. Weed management shall follow measures provided in the *Invasive, Non-native Species* section:
 - a. All sites shall be monitored and treated for noxious weeds on an annual basis for the life of the project until Final Abandonment has been approved by the BLM.
 - b. All herbicide use must comply with buffers found in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2010-0005-EA.
 - c. Invasive species found in and near special status plant species populations must be manually controlled. Surrounding areas must be spotted treated with backpack sprayers. BLM must approve all herbicides used within 300 meters of special status plant species populations.
 - d. Herbicide applicator personnel must be trained in the identification of the nearby special status plant species.
20. The BLM ecologist will be notified if any maintenance is required after the initial project is completed. All conservation measures must be followed for maintenance activities. Maintenance actions may require additional special status plant species surveys.
21. Vegetation removal associated with well pad, road and pipeline development will take place outside the migratory bird nesting season of May 15 through July 15. Earthwork associated with the Proposed Action will be permitted from July 16 through May 14.
22. Although reserve pits are not planned with this project, in the event that they are built the operator shall prevent use by migratory birds of reserve pits that store or are expected to store fluids which may pose a risk to migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds and raptors during completion and after completion activities have ceased. Methods may include netting or other alternative methods that effectively prevent use and that meet BLM approval. It will be the responsibility of the operator to notify the BLM of the method that will be used to prevent use two weeks prior to when completion activities are

- expected to begin. The BLM approved method will be applied within 24 hours after completion.
23. All construction activity shall cease when soils or road surfaces become saturated to a depth of three inches unless approved by the Authorized Officer.
 24. All equipment that may act as a vector for weeds shall be cleaned before entering the project area.
 25. All seed placed on BLM lands will comply with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) state noxious weed seed requirements and shall be certified by a qualified Federal, State, or county office as free of noxious weeds.
 26. All straw, mulch, or other vegetative material used on site (e.g., for site stability or rehabilitation) shall be certified by a qualified Federal, State, or county office as free of noxious weeds or weed seed.
 27. Construction sites will be maintained in a sanitary condition at all times; waste materials at those sites shall be disposed of promptly at an appropriate waste disposal site.
 28. "Waste" means all discarded matter including, but not limited to, human waste, trash, garbage, refuse, oil drums, petroleum products, ashes, and junk equipment. The holder shall be prepared to provide documentation that all waste is properly disposed of at the appropriate regulated disposal facility.
 29. A release of any chemical, oil, petroleum product, produced water, or sewage, etc., (regardless of quantity) must be reported by the applicant to the BLM – WRFO Hazardous Materials Coordinator at (970) 878-3800.
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- 39. When drilling to set the surface casing, drilling fluid will be composed only of fresh water, bentonite, and/or a benign lost circulation material that does not pose a risk of harm to human health or the environment (e.g., cedar bark, shredded cane stalks, mineral fiber and hair, mica flakes, ground and sized limestone or marble, wood, nut hulls, corncobs, or cotton hulls).

40. In addition to the design features included in the Proposed Action, the applicant shall use seed that is certified and free of noxious weeds. All seed tags will be submitted to the designated Natural Resource Specialist within 14 calendar days from the time the seeding activities have ended via Sundry Notice (SN). The sundry will include the purpose of the seeding activity (i.e., seeding well pad cut and fill slopes, seeding pipeline corridor, etc.). In addition, the SN will include the well or well pad number associated with the seeding activity, if applicable, the name of the contractor that performed the work, his or her phone number, the method used to apply the seed (e.g., broadcast, hydro-seeded, drilled), whether the seeding activity represents interim or final reclamation, an estimate of the total acres seeded, an attached map that clearly identifies all disturbed areas that were seeded, and the date the seed was applied.
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COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS & CONFORMANCE WITH THE LAND USE PLAN

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Internal scoping was initiated when the project was presented to the White River Field Office (WRFO) interdisciplinary team on 5/6/2014. External scoping was conducted by posting this project on the WRFO's on-line National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) register on 5/28/2014.

RATIONALE

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with Section 390 of the Energy Policy. Drilling an additional well from an existing well pad allows for development of oil and gas resources with no additional surface disturbance.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES

State Director Review

Under regulations addressed in 43 CFR 3165.3(b), any adversely affected party that contests a decision of the Authorized Officer may request an administrative review, before the State Director, either with or without oral presentation. Such request, including all supporting documentation, shall be filed in writing with the BLM Colorado State Office at 2850 Youngfield Street, Lakewood, Colorado 80215 within 20 business days of the date such decision was received or considered to have been received. Upon request and showing of good cause, an extension may be granted by the State Director. Such review shall include all factors or circumstances relevant to the particular case.

Appeal

Any party who is adversely affected by the decision of the State Director after State Director review, under 43 CFR 3165.3(b), of a decision may appeal that decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals pursuant to the regulations set out in 43 CRF Part 4.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:


Acting Field Manager

DATE SIGNED:

7/18/14